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*At least 11 people have been killed and over 50 injured in a suspected suicide bomb attack in the southern Russian republic of Ingushetia. The attacker drove his vehicle into the gates of the local interior ministry buildings. Daniel Fisher reports:*

This morning in the Ingush capital of Nazran, local police were **standing to attention** in the **courtyard** of their headquarters to receive their orders for the day, when a bomber drove a truck loaded with explosives into the gates of the building.

The blast **set the building alight** destroying much of it and many of the vehicles parked there. Local officials have warned that the number of dead could still rise as local apartment blocks were also hit and children were amongst the wounded. The bombing is one of the deadliest in months and **damages the Kremlin's claims** that the Republic's new president is **bringing the region under control**.

The Ingush president Yunus-Bek Yevkurov, who was still **convalescing** after **surviving an assassination attempt** in June, spoke about the attack this morning. He **pointed the finger at** the West saying that it **was behind the blast**. He said that western powers would never allow Russia to **reclaim its status** as a world power.

Daniel Fisher, BBC News, Moscow

## Vocabulary and definitions

<b>standing to attention</b>	alert and ready to receive orders (expression often used when talking about soldiers or police officers)
<b>courtyard</b>	private area outside a building which is enclosed by walls
<b>set the building alight</b>	caused the building to start burning
<b>damages the Kremlin's claims</b>	makes it difficult to believe what the Russian government says
<b>bringing the region under control</b>	managing to govern the area more successfully than before
<b>convalescing</b>	resting and recovering after an illness or unpleasant experience
<b>surviving an assassination attempt</b>	staying alive after somebody tried to kill him for political reasons
<b>pointed the finger at</b>	blamed
<b>was behind the blast</b>	initiated the attack
<b>reclaim its status</b>	take back the political position it previously held

More on this story: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/8204670.stm>

Read and listen to the story and the vocabulary online:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/wordsinthenews/2009/08/090817\\_witn\\_russia\\_page.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/wordsinthenews/2009/08/090817_witn_russia_page.shtml)